

Docket No. 020417

Serial No. 10/765,766

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed October 5, 2005. Applicant has amended claims 1, 6-9, 11, 14, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25, 28-31, 33, 34, 37, and 40-43; and cancelled claims 4, 5, 10, 17, 20, 23, 24, 32, 35, and 36. Claims 2, 3, 12, 13, 15, 16, 26, 27, 38, 39, 44, and 45 remain in the application without amendment.

Objection to Drawings

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to FIG. 5 because the INPUT CLOCK in figure 5 appears to be pointed in the wrong direction. Applicant submits that the arrow is pointed in the correct direction. Paragraph 0048 describes that the reference clock 112 generates the input clock to the counter. Thus the INPUT CLOCK is an output of the REFERENCE CLOCK 112.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, claims 5, 6, 9-11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 28-30, 36, 37, and 40-43 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 7, 8, 12-16, 19-23, 26, 27, 31-35, 38, 39, 44, and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,449,329 to Halter. Applicant respectfully overcomes the rejection by amendment of the claims to include the allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 5 and intervening claim 4. Claims 7 and 8 have been amended to depend from claim 1. Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 12, 13, 44, and 45 depend from allowable claim 1 as amended. Claims 4 and 5 have been cancelled.

Allowable claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 4.

Allowable claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 1.

Docket No. 020417**Serial No. 10/765,766**

Allowable claim 11 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 1 and intervening claim 10. Claim 10 has been cancelled.

Claim 14 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 17. Claims 15 and 16 depend from allowable claim 14 as amended. Claim 17 has been cancelled. Allowable claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 14.

Claim 19 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 24 and intervening claims 20 and 23. Claims 21 and 22 have been amended to depend from claim 19. Claims 21, 22, 26, and 27 depend from allowable claim 18 as amended. Claims 20, 23, and 24 have been cancelled.

Allowable claim 28 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 19.

Allowable claim 29 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 19.

Allowable claim 30 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 19.

Claim 31 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 36 and intervening claims 32 and 35. Claims 33 and 34 have been amended to depend from claim 31. Claims 33, 34, 38, and 39 depend from allowable claim 31 as amended. Claims 32, 35, and 36 have been cancelled.

Allowable claim 40 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 31.

Allowable claim 41 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 31.

Allowable claim 42 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 31.

Allowable claim 43 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 1.

Docket No. 020417

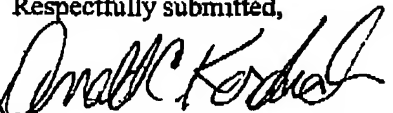
Serial No. 10/765,766

CONCLUSION

All claims in this application are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 17-0026. The Examiner is invited to telephone the below-signed attorney to discuss this application.

Dated: April 5, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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